

REMARKS

The Office Action dated November 3, 2005, has been received and carefully noted. The following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 2, 17-19, 21, 22, 25, 26, 39, 41-43 and 47 have been amended. Claims 1 and 217-224 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 59-216 were previously canceled. Thus, claims 2-58 are pending in the present application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter recited in claims 2-58. It is submitted that claims 2, 17-19, 21, 22, 25, 26, 39, 41-43 and 47 have been amended to be in independent form including all the limitations of base claim 1. Therefore, claims 2, 17-19, 21, 22, 25, 26, 39, 41-43 and 47 are allowable.

As claims 3-16, 20, 23-24, 27-38, 40, 44-46, 48-58 depend on 2, 19, 22, 26, 39, 43 and 47, respectively, Applicants further submits that claims 3-16, 20, 23-24, 27-38, 40, 44-46, 48-58 are also allowable.

Claims 1 and 224 Rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1 and 224 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hartrick et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,532,920, hereinafter "Hartrick"). In view of the above, this rejection is not moot.

Conclusion

In view of the above, the Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 2-58, and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket No. 026880-00024.

Respectfully submitted,



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